

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 812

By Kyle

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of former Senator Edward Davis of Shelby County.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of our friend and former colleague Edward Davis; and

WHEREAS, a member of the 91st through the 98th Tennessee General Assemblies, from 1979 to 1994, Senator Edward Davis was an exemplary and conscientious public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens, especially his constituents in the 33rd Senatorial District; and

WHEREAS, born on August 6, 1935, in Germantown, Edward Davis was the son of Cornklin and Margaret (Lane) Davis; and

WHEREAS, he attended primary and secondary schools in Shelby County and received a Bachelor of Science degree in Political Science in 1967 from Tennessee State University in Nashville; and

WHEREAS, an accomplished businessman, Senator Davis owned and operated Edward Davis and Company, an insurance and real estate business, for many years; and

WHEREAS, Edward Davis was a recognized leader among his peers, having estimably served as a member of the Memphis Board of Realtors, Tennessee Association of Realtors, Insurors of Memphis, National Association of Real Estate Brokers, and life member of Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity; and

WHEREAS, humbly offering himself as a candidate to serve the good people of Memphis and Shelby County, Edward Davis won election to the Senate in 1979; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure as a member of the Senate, Edward Davis served as Vice Chairman of the Energy Committee, Chairman of the Calendar Committee, Secretary of the Government Operations Committee, a key member of the Fiscal Review Committee, the

Commerce, Labor, and Agriculture Committee, and Chairman of the Transportation Committee; and

WHEREAS, Senator Davis also served with probity as a member of the National Black Caucus of State Legislators and the Tennessee Black Caucus of State Legislators; and

WHEREAS, during his August service in the Tennessee General Assembly, Senator Davis proved himself a thoughtful and dedicated member; he was respected by his colleagues for his expertise and insight and admired for his hard work on and careful consideration of the legislation he sponsored; and

WHEREAS, Edward Davis was a recipient of the Tennessee State University Presidential Proclamation of the Martin Luther King State Holiday Committee, was recognized for outstanding achievement in the field of social action by Phi Beta Sigma, and received the Distinguished Alumni of the Year Award by the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education; and

WHEREAS, a man of deep and abiding faith, Mr. Davis was a member of the Baptist church, which he served faithfully for many years; and

WHEREAS, Edward Davis was also a devoted family man, and he was fortunate to have shared the love and companionship of his wife, Henrene Cannon Davis, and their two daughters and one son, Dara Dene, Deborah Donne, and Edward Jr.; and

WHEREAS, Edward Davis leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Senator Edward Davis, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character as a legislator, public servant, and human being, and commend his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Senator Davis.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.